

HOUDON BUST OF WASHINGTON

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE RECOMMENDING  
AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECURING A RE-  
PLICA OF THE HOUDON BUST OF WASHINGTON FOR LODG-  
MENT IN THE PAN AMERICAN BUILDING TOGETHER, WITH A  
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE  
BUDGET

DECEMBER 29, 1924.—Read, referred to the Committee on the Library, and  
ordered to be printed

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I transmit herewith a report by the Secretary of State recommend-  
ing an appropriation of \$1,000 for the purpose of securing a replica  
of the Houdon bust of Washington for lodgment in the Pan American  
Building, in fulfillment of a decision that each government which  
is a member of the Pan American Union should present a white  
marble bust, with a suitable pedestal, of the national hero of such  
country.

The request of the Secretary of State has my approval, and I  
strongly recommend the request to the favorable consideration of  
Congress.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, December 29, 1924.

The PRESIDENT:

The Director General of the Pan American Union has called my  
attention to the fact that when the plans for the erection of the Pan  
American Building were completed it was contemplated to devote  
the three wings of the upper hall surrounding the patio to a gallery  
of national heroes in honor of the great patriots of the American  
countries, and that it was then decided that each Government which is

a member of the Pan American Union should present for this purpose a white marble bust with a suitable pedestal of the national hero of such country. I am further informed by the director general that most of the countries have presented busts of their national heroes, and that these are now in place; that one of the few busts lacking is that of Washington; that the bust of Washington now in the Hall of the Americas of the Pan American Building has been lent to the Pan American Union by Mrs. Henry F. Dimock; that the Fine Arts Commission has visited the Pan American Building, and that the commission's expert on sculpture has informed the director general that it will be possible to secure a replica of the Houdon bust of Washington at a cost of \$1,000. The director general adds that the fact that the United States has never presented a bust of its national hero has been the subject of considerable criticism, and he expresses the hope that it may be found possible to request of Congress an appropriation of \$1,000 for the purpose of securing a replica of the Houdon bust.

I beg to submit the matter to you to the end that it may, if you perceive no objection to such course, be submitted to Congress with a view to obtaining the appropriation desired.

I inclose a copy of a letter from the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, stating that this request is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. HUGHES.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, December 22, 1924.

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BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,  
Washington, December 11, 1924.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I have your letter of December 9, 1924 (SYS 710.001-341), resubmitting draft of proposed report to the President recommending that the Congress be requested to authorize an appropriation of \$1,000 for the purpose of securing a replica of the Houdon bust of Washington for lodgment in the Hall of the Americas of the Pan American Building at Washington, in accordance with a plan contemplated at the time of the completion of the Pan American Building, and inquiring whether the action proposed in the report is now in harmony with the financial policy of the President.

It gives me pleasure to advise you that the proposed request for legislation authorizing an appropriation of \$1,000 for the purpose stated is not in conflict with the financial program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

H. M. LORD, *Director*,

The SECRETARY OF STATE.

